

DEPT. OF ZOOLOGY,
ANDHRA UNIVERSITY,
VISAKHAPATNAM 530 003,
August 10, 1981.

C. UMA DEVI

REFERENCES

SMITH, J. L. B. (1961): The sea fishes of southern Africa. 4th edit. [Cape Town]. Central News Agency Ltd., pp. xvi+580.

27. ON A FREAK OF *ISTIBLENNIUS STRIATOMACULATUS*

While studying the fish fauna of rock-pools along the coastline between Visakhapatnam and Bheemunipatnam (17°40'-54'N, 83°16'-28'E), a blennid fish possessing abnormal vertical fins was collected on August 10, 1979. It was identified as *Istiblennius striatomaculatus* (Kner 1866) Smith-Vaniz & Springer (1971) of the tribe Salariai in the family Blenniidae. A brief description of this abnormal fish is provided with a comparison of its features with those of a normal fish of about the same standard length.

The specimen is characterised by D XIII, 20; A III, 22; p. 14; V I, 3; C 3; supra-orbital cirri 6; nasal cirri 2; gill rakers 2+1+12.

Percentage of Standard Length:

Total length 112.77; body depth 20.21; head length 23.40; eye diameter 6.38; inter-orbital distance 2.13; orbital cirrus 5.32; nasal cirrus 2.13; distance between dorsal notch and caudal base 44.68.

Percentage of Head Length:

Eye diameter 27.27; inter-orbital distance 0.09; orbital cirrus 22.73; nasal cirrus 9.09.

The body is anguilliform and naked with prominent forehead and eyes, nasal cirrus twice branched and supra-orbital cirrus having 6 branches. The spinous dorsal is a little lower than the soft dorsal, mid-spines being longer;

the 13th spine is the smallest, lying hidden in the notch between the soft and spinous parts of dorsal. Membrane of the dorsal fused with that of caudal fin. Last dorsal ray comparatively much elongated, curved and continued parallel with caudal fin rays. Anal spines small and hidden, first spine positioned as a small papilla after the vent, and anal fin base adjacent to that a caudal fin.

Body olive with brown spots and streaks and 6 pairs of brown bands descend rather irregularly; under-parts lighter without any markings. A small black spot between the 1st and the 2nd dorsal spine and another between 2nd and 3rd dorsal spine. Spinous part of the dorsal fin with brownish wavy lines running posteriorly and inclining gradually towards the base. Rayed portion has several zigzag lines. Pectoral fin pale with semicircular rows of brown spots. Caudal fin olive with brown spots arranged in semicircles.

This description conforms quite closely with that for *I. striatomaculatus* provided by Smith (1959). However, there are some deviations. The abnormal fish has an additional anal spine and only three caudal rays in the retarded tail as against 13 in the normal. Furthermore, the dorsal fin is united completely with the caudal fin and the anal has come to be very close to the caudal fin.

In taxonomic studies, it is a general prac-

tice to attach significance to the form and number of anal spines and caudal rays. The present specimen, as already indicated, shows deviations in these characters.

DEPT. OF MARINE LIVING RESOURCES,
ANDHRA UNIVERSITY.

DEPT. OF ZOOLOGY,
ANDHRA UNIVERSITY,
WALTAIR 530 003, (A.P.),
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- SMITH-VANIZ, W. E. & SPRINGER, V. G. (1971): Synopsis of the tribe Salariini, with description of 5 new genera and 3 new species (Pisces: Blenniidae). *Smithson. Contrib. Zool.* 73: 1-72.

28. ON THE OCCURRENCE OF *CRYPTOTERMES BENGALENSIS* SNYDER (ISOPTERA: KALOTERMITIDAE) IN GUJARAT, INDIA

Cryptotermes bengalensis Snyder was described in 1934 from the Sunderbans (21°40'-22°50'N and 88°10'-89°40'E), West Bengal (type locality) on the basis of imago and soldiers. It has been since recorded from various places in India and Bangladesh (vide infra). This species has recently been collected at Kaprada Forests, Bulsar District in Gujarat, attacking dead portions of a living tree of *Tectona grandis* (Teak), thus extending its range westwards.

Material: A vial with six soldiers and several workers, Gujarat: Kaprada forest (Bulsar District), N. S. Rathore coll., 27.12.1980. Ex: *Tectona grandis*.

Measurements (in mm.) of soldier:
Total body-length with mandibles4.9-5.6
Head length without mandibles1.47-1.51
Maximum length of head up to
 frontal ridge1.25-1.32
Median length of head up to
 frontal ridge1.05-1.12
Maximum width of head1.33-1.37

Length of mandibles0.49
Maximum length of pronotum0.84
Maximum width of pronotum1.33

DISTRIBUTION: INDIA: *West Bengal*: Sunderbans, Jhingakhali forest. *Assam*: Digboi, Jokhai reserve forest. *Madhya Pradesh*: Mandla fort; Surhi village, Lormi range (Bilaspur); Kesli range (Hoshangabad) and Jaisinghnagar (Sahdol). *Tripura*: Belonia and Paratia. *Uttar Pradesh*: Gorakhpur and Ramnagar. *Gujarat*: Kaprada forest (Bulsar District), Present record. BANGLADESH: Dacca.

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